



# Reimbursement Opportunity For Texas School Districts

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Your school district may be able to get reimbursed for activities your staff may already be performing to support the health of your students. This opportunity comes through the **Medicaid Administrative Claiming (MAC) program**, which has been restructured, making it easier for districts to participate.

Specifically, MAC reimburses school districts for certain medical- and health-related activities delivered to students within the district, regardless of whether the student is eligible for Medicaid or not. If your district conducts some of the following activities, it is possible your district is losing out on potential federal funds available through the MAC program.

## *Does your district routinely:*

- Work with other agencies and/or providers to improve collaboration around the early identification of medical/dental/mental problems?
- Develop strategies to assess or increase the capacity of school medical/dental/mental health programs?
- Coordinate with interagency committees to identify, promote, and develop Texas Health Steps services in the school system?
- Participate in meetings to coordinate or review a student's needs for health-related services covered by Medicaid?
- Contact pregnant and parenting teenagers about the availability of Medicaid prenatal, and well baby care programs and services?
- Distribute literature about the benefits, eligibility requirements, and availability of the Medicaid program, including Texas Health Steps?

These are all activities for which reimbursement can be obtained through participation in MAC.





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**Besides reimbursement, MAC can have other positive outcomes for your district, including:**

- Increased access to preventative medical care ultimately improves health. Children without health insurance commonly do not seek medical care, including preventative visits, and do not get prescriptions filled, increasing for themselves and others the risk of disease and episodes of school absence.
- Improved health outcomes at the district by teaching students and/or families about healthy eating habits, controlling diabetes, and proactive maintenance measures to reduce asthma triggers; all of which may help overcome learning barriers in the classroom.
- Identification of students who may be eligible for special education or mental health services, which may address barriers to learning and teaching in the classroom.
- Connection of students with Medicaid services for which they may be eligible. This can improve attendance and graduation outcomes at your district. Reasons children are absent vary but poor and low-income children are especially vulnerable because their families often lack resources such as transportation, food, clothing, and social supports that help ensure regular attendance.
- Increased attendance and graduation rates at your district that ultimately impact funding for your district.

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) has minimized the administrative burden once associated with the program and streamlined the MAC participation process. To learn more about the opportunities your district can gain by participating in the MAC program, visit the [MAC-ISD](http://MAC-ISD) program website or contact HHSC by phone: 512-462-6200 or by email: [MAC@hhsc.state.tx.us](mailto:MAC@hhsc.state.tx.us).

